

WESSEX NEWS

VOL. 4. No. 10.

MAY 2ND, 1939.

PRICE TWOPENCE.

A Country is Crossed Off the Map

I am writing this in Brno, but I shall have to bring it personally to England as it would never get through the censorship. Can you imagine what happens when a country is crossed out? Inadequate though words are, let me give you some impressions of the catastrophe, as it swiftly overwhelmed my second home.

It is the evening of March 14th, and I am paying my supper bill in a restaurant near my home. There is an unpleasant tension in the air. Outside it is snowing slightly, but the streets are oddly deserted, for cordons of armed gendarmes or soldiers have kept the centre of the town cleared to prevent any possible demonstration or disturbance by the local Nazis or Czech patriots. The head-waiter chats to me before I go: he is very cut up that the Slovaks have left the democracy, he cannot understand it. But he is confident that Czecho-Moravia will remain; he laughs at the idea of Hitler in Brno; why, the town is 77 per cent Czech, anyhow. I feel reassured, but my reassurance leaves me as I make my way home along the windy streets; for the soldiers and police are all gone, and the last words I hear this night are the greetings of two S.A. men as they meet on the steps of the Deutsches Haus.

It is still snowing a little when I awake next morning, and my eyes blink themselves into wakefulness at the sight of a huge swastika fluttering from the house opposite mine. I get out of bed in a daze. The old milkwoman with the morning milk rings my bell. She is weeping and agitated: "Our country is gone," she says, putting the milk into my hands. "Our country is gone, and the Germans are coming." I was teaching that morning at the English Institute, a large private college of some 2,000 students solely for teaching English, situated on the Mamesti svobody, the main square of the town. It was only when I set out through the town that I fully realised how this was affecting people. Flags had been ordered from all public buildings and most of these were now guarded by silly youths as orders, questioning all who wished to enter. There was no uproar, no disturbances, for Czechs this was merely the last straw of freedom gone. The mental tension was unbearable in a silence that the drifting snow only served to accentuate. A look of sullen, reproachful resignation haunted nearly every downcast face; here and there on a corner or in some small shop some people even openly wept. In the more German quarters of the town a jubilant Heil Hitler would echo across the street as two proud bearers of a swastika arm-band passed each other. By 11 o'clock the army had arrived, lorries, armoured cars and field-kitchens bringing soup to the starving populace, though it did not take the army long to find out how well and cheaply provisioned were the Czech shops.

Jew-hunting began almost at once, a great drive carried out by S.A., S.S., and Gestapo. In this town the Jews have been the most cultured element, and about the only section of the community with any social sense and taste. And now they were going about fearing for their very existence. I cannot dwell on the hundreds of details of the next few days: all Jews deprived of their cars, houses confiscated, valuables taken. The homeless Jew became almost a commonplace. Lawyers, doctors and all teachers were dismissed. Shop-fronts smeared with caricatures and gibes and the shops taken over by commissars; the foreign consulates besieged by crowds of desperate clamouring people hoping to find a refuge abroad; mysterious disappearances; the shadow of prison or concentration camp on unnamed charges; within four days, three of my own acquaintances committed suicide, and even the British Vice-Consul killed himself. The existence of these people has become less than that of animals; in many cases whole families are forced to find their way to other lands as beggars.

It is mainly on account of these people that I have returned to England this Easter, and I am wondering if it is possible to break through the usual student apathy and find some of them willing to help in some small way. Unfortunately I was delayed a week in Prague over formalities for leaving the country and college had already gone down, so that I have not been able to see people personally.

W. S. ALLEN.



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WESSEX NEWS

Tuesday, May 2nd, 1939.

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Editor—K. J. NEWMAN.
Sub-Editor—D. J. LUKE.
Sports Editor—J. S. CONSELL.
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Editorial.

After a fortnight of rain and cold, the Clerk of the Weather suddenly went "dry" and decreed one of the best Easters for many years. Yet Man, in his folly, saw fit to mar a glorious memory with yet another sinister move in the cold-blooded game of international politics. Throughout this Session we have been watching the development of crisis after crisis, and each emergency has called for more sacrifice and preparation on the part of the nation. Even as I write, the world is hanging on the speech of the German Fuehrer, and the great English democracy has been shaken from its accustomed coolness to accept the principle of conscription. So swiftly have events moved that already the conquest of Czechoslovakia has been forgotten. We have been fortunate enough to get an eye-witness account of the German occupation from an Old Hartleyan, W. S. Allen, at present in Brno. He is very anxious that we should do what we can to help refugees, and for those who may wish to help, I print an extract from his letter. . . .

CZECH REFUGEES.

"GENERAL

English centres at Committee for Czech Refugees, 5, Mecklenburg Sq., W.1. and Refugee co-ordinating Committee, Bloomsbury House, Bloomsbury Street, W.C.1.

At present it is very difficult to get men refugees into the country, as a guarantee of £200 is required. It is probable that this will ultimately be met by the govt. and only a guarantee of accommodation will be needed. Some would-be refugees already have a colonial permit or an American affidavit and are only fleeing for safety in transit. Refugees with no definite plans are trained for work in the colonies. GIRLS. There are less difficulties in getting women out of the country, as they can be accepted as domestic servants, companions, etc. Most are only too willing to come over like this and expect only pocket-money in exchange for whatever work they do; it is to be hoped they

Continued on page 3, column 4

The National Parliament of Youth

Puppy Play and Parliamentary Procedure

The first parliament of youth, which took place at Seymour Hall, London on March 24-26th, had all the dignity of Westminster. There were 600 "M.P.'s," who came from all parts of the country, representing various organisations; Girl Guides, Regnal Leagues, and countless others. Political parties were there in force, as well as many who quaintly designated themselves (pace Aristotle) as "non-political"! The first session began appropriately in the evening. Artificial lighting always enhances the magnificence of any assembly. Before the opening, each organisation met and discussed their attitude to the various Bills, and elected a Whip. Mr. Duncan-Jones, the son of the Bishop of Chichester, was "Leader of the House," and Euan Wallis-Jones, a young barrister, was elected "Speaker." The latter opened the proceedings by reading the "King's Speech," which gave a brief indication of the aims of the "Parliament."

The Youth of the country were called together to "partake the rights and bear the duties of citizens of a free democracy." "Our democracy," he said, "that it may be strong, needs the support, nay the enthusiasm of the youth of Great Britain." "They are its future and its sure defence. . . . Therefore is this Parliament here assembled, that you, the representatives of our youth, may join together and together learn the true nature, the strength and the weakness of the democracy of Britain." The speech then indicated the various bills that were to be put before the House for its consideration. There were various amendments to the "King's Speech" which was finally carried by a large majority. The form of voting adopted was that of strict parliamentary practice, namely:

"1. Mr. Speaker in putting a question to the House shall first ask those in favour to say 'Aye' and those to the contrary 'No.'"

2. If Mr. Speaker's decision on the vote by voice be challenged he shall take a vote by show of hands and the Clerk of the House shall assist him in the telling.

3. If a substantial challenge be made to the vote by hand or if the vote be unreasonably close, the House shall divide into two lobbies and the tellers shall be appointed to assist him in the counting."

The Saturday Session began with a motion for an "Adjournment of the House in view of the present position in Spain," and the House agreed to adjourn at

5.30 p.m. This was followed by the Second Reading of the Bills.

An Education Bill, submitted by the National Union of Students, which proposed a uniform code of regulations for all schools for children between 11-18 years, the abolition of school-fee, the raising of the school-leaving age to 16, and maintenance grants to necessitous children, was passed into the committee stage by a vote by voice.

A Youth Labour Bill, which proposed to regulate the hours and conditions of young persons employed in any industry, factory, office, etc., and to provide paid holidays for such young persons, was passed after long discussion by a vote by voice.

A Peace Bill, which proposed to incorporate the Covenant of the League of Nations as Law, passed by 253-69 votes.

A Health Bill, which proposed the extension of National Health Insurance and benefits, free treatment, the regulation of hospitals, and the limiting of the number of patients on doctors' panels, passed by vote of voice.

A Nutrition Bill, which provided for the constitution of a National Food Planning Commission to ensure food storage for times of emergency, and to provide for the supplementary feeding of expectant mothers, babies, and children, was passed by a vote by voice.

A Housing Bill, which proposed the constitution of a National Housing and Planning Board, in an attempt to stop the building of the "slums of the future" that are springing up around us, passed by 218-46 votes.

An Indian Independence Bill, submitted by the Federation of Indian Students, was passed by vote of voice.

During the Sunday Session the House divided into its various committees to discuss the Bills, which were submitted in the revised forms for their Third Reading in the evening. The Indian Independence Bill was withdrawn as it was thought that a more detailed study of conditions in India were required before such a Bill should be submitted to the House. The other Bills all passed into Law as amended:

the Education Bill by vote of voice,

the Youth Labour Bill by vote of voice,

the Peace Bill by 225-103, the Health Bill by vote of voice, the Nutrition Bill by vote of voice,

the Housing Bill by vote of voice.

The proceedings were then

brought to a close by the Speaker, who read to the House messages of goodwill which had been sent to the Parliament by the Archbishop of York, and by the Roumanian Youth Organisation.

It can be said that all who attended must have learnt the "Nature, the weakness and the strength of Democracy." As an initial effort the Parliament was a success. The chief criticism must be that all who were there assembled thought on similar lines: there was not enough opposition to the legislation proposed. It may be that all youth think the same; might it not be, rather, because certain organisations withdrew from the Parliament for petty reasons. And of course . . . there was no Chancellor of the Exchequer! Frequently the question was asked, "Who is going to pay for all this?" It was estimated that the Education Bill would cost the country £60,000,000 per annum, but no estimates were given for the other bills. But the feeling of the Parliament was that the legislation enacted was essential above all else: that a country that could spend so much on armaments could raise the money to put this legislation into effect; and moreover, that the future of our civilisation demanded that such legislation should be passed.

The Youth Parliament is an idea that must not be discontinued. It is hoped that it will become at least an annual national event. It was further hoped that the Universities and the towns should set up their own Parliaments, to discuss the Bills and other matters of importance, that Youth may begin to think of the problems of citizenship, this Youth that is the country's "future and its sure defence."

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Athletic Union

19TH ANNUAL SPORTS.

ARTS WIN FACULTY CHAMPIONSHIP.

In spite of the inclemency of the element last Saturday, there was a large number of spectators to cheer on the athletes. No women's events were held owing to an oft-lamented lack of enthusiasm which now seems to be permanent. The men, however, having somewhat recovered from their apathy and laziness of last year, it was found necessary to hold heats on the previous Wednesday. It is still obvious that many more students might compete on Sports' Day.

On the whole, the general standard of attainment was above the average, particularly in the throwing events. Two records were broken, apart from the fact that the Arts won the Championship for the first time in 21 years. O. Arjas, a magnificent all-round Athlete (champion skater and cyclist) from Finland, shattered the shot-put record by just over 6ft., which was unquestionably the best performance of the afternoon, and for which he was awarded the Principal's medal. His winning throw with the bamboo javelin was also the best effort recorded.

For the fourth year in succession, the captain of athletics won both the sprints in very fast times, and will undoubtedly prove to be as invincible this season as ever. If he had not eased up 80 yards from the tape in the 220 yards, he would very probably have broken the record.

Despite the severe handicap of a strong head wind down from the home straight, the times for the middle and long distance races compare more than favourably with those of previous years. N. D. Pirrie's magnificent stride enabled him to shake off his opponents very easily in the half-mile, in which he led from start to finish. The mile produced the most exciting finish of the afternoon. Down the back

straight L. H. Moore challenged I. V. Newton-Smith unsuccessfully, and then, upon entering the home straight started his finishing sprint which the exhausted Ivor just managed to counter. In the three-miles, J. Hodgkinson decided to change his tactics this year, and instead of letting someone make the pace for him, to run his own race. He was never challenged, and returned a good time.

P. R. Mossman, hurdling very stylishly, left the other competitors well in the rear. In this event and the two jumps the results of those placed 2nd and 3rd were disappointing, and do not bode well. C. T. Reed, who won by 8ins., easily cleared 5ft. 4ins. in the high jump, but was unsuccessful in his attempt at a record.

It was most appropriate that the javelin throw should be won by Arjas, whose compatriots have so often increased the world record. He won by 6ins. from C. T. Reed, who, curiously enough, had previously reversed the result by the same distance in the discus throw.

The Relay proved to be a very exciting race, and the result was in doubt until the last half-mile, when Pirrie opened up a 30-yard lead for Engineering which was not reduced.

Excitement ran high in the tug-of-war which determined the fate of the faculty championship. The Arts team, using its superior weight to great advantage, rendered the much-vaunted technique of the Engineers ineffective by winning in the two pulls.

We would draw the attention of resident students to the interesting fact that 32½ of the 58pts. for non-team events were gained by Russell men.

Finally, we wish to thank all those members of the Staff who played such a necessary part in making Sports' Day a success.

SPORTS DAY RESULTS.

100yds. 1, L. M. Wallace; 2, P. Mossman; 3, A. Murnaghan. Time: 10.1 secs.

880yds. 1, N. Pirrie; 2, C. Dukes; 3, H. Harrison. Time: 2 mins. 8.4 secs.

Throwing the Discus: 1, C. Reed; 2, O. Arjas; 3, E. Laakso. Distance: 140ft. 1in.

Long Jump: 1, A. Murnaghan; 2, P. Mossman; 3, T. Brockington. Distance: 18ft. 11ins.

220yds. 1, L. M. Wallace; 2, P. Mossman; 3, L. Carswell. Time: 22.6 secs.

Putting the Shot: 1, O. Arjas; 2, E. Laakso; 3, J. Platt. Distance: 40ft. 0ins. (Sports' Day & Ground Record).

One Mile: 1, L. Moore, 2, E. Colenutt. Time: 4mins. 54.6 secs.

High Jump: 1, C. Reed; 2, T. Brockington; 3.

Height: 5ft. 4½ins.

120yds. Hurdles: 1, P. Mossman; 2, — Blake; 3.

Time: 17.2 secs.

Throwing the Javelin: 1, O. Arjas; 2, C. Reed; 3, E. Laakso.

Distance: 151ft. 1½ins.

Three-Miles Team Race: 1, J. Hodgkinson; 2, I. Newton-Smith; 3, L. Moore.

Time: 16mins. 39 secs.

Team Race: 1, Engineering; 2, Science.

One Mile Relay: 1, Engineering; 2, Science; 3, Arts.

Time: 4 mins. 1.2 secs.

Tug-of-War: 1, Arts; 2, Engineering.

Best Champion: O. Arjas.

Champion Faculty:

Arts, 37½ pts.

Engineering, 35½ pts.

Science, 16 pts.

Economics, 1 pt.

FENCING CLUB.

Though unable to realise its intention of winning the U.A.U. Championships in all three weapons, the club may contemplate with some satisfaction the great improvement upon its performance last year. This was because of the greater specialising in and concentrating on one weapon, and further success and improvement will come if this method of training is adopted even more.

Foil:

Bailey: one win, five defeats.

Hawdon: 3 wins, four defeats.

Cottrell: 1 win, six defeats.

Bailey had the misfortune to be pooled with a number of crack men, and Cottrell was unfortunately overwhelmed by an even more formidable opposition. Hawdon missed the Semi-Final by one point.

Epee:

Langhorne: 3 wins, 3 defeats;

qualifies to Final, in which

placed 4th, with 4 wins, 7 defeats.

Bailey: 0 wins, 5 defeats.

Hawdon: 2 wins, 4 defeats.

Langhorne would perhaps have done even better had he had more of his usual imperturbability; Hawdon had some luck with an unfamiliar weapon.

Sabre:

Bailey: 0 wins, 5 defeats.

Hawdon: 1 win, 6 defeats.

Cottrell: 1 win, 6 defeats.

Bailey again had the bad luck to be pooled, with practically all former finalists, and did well to lose all his fights 4-3. Hawdon, with a spot of 'flu', and Cottrell, were unable to gain much success against superior fencing.

On the whole, a most satisfying improvement.

CRICKET CLUB.

RESULT:

King Alfred's, Winchester, 115. U.C.S., 115. (Eden 71).

EDITORIAL—continued.

are not exploited. Forms for this can be obtained from Bloomsbury House (see above), and should be forwarded to me, with some indication of the type of position offered.

My address: BRNO, Ulice Bedricha Smetany 43/dvere cislo 2 Moravia/Protektorat Moravsko.

We have been fortunate in securing the services of a very clever Eastern astrologer who will try each week to introduce readers to some of the mysteries of the Stars. English people have a great weakness for fortune-telling, those who would like to know their future in more detail, are assured that a letter addressed, The Astrologer, c/o the Editor, Wessex News, giving date and year of birth will be given special attention.

This week we have also begun an Information Column in which we shall publish a list of teaching and other appointments, which should be of interest to students and old Hartleyans alike.

We British

Replying to the statement that America is the "melting pot" of Europe, Mr. Winger, the American Debating Team's first string, gave us his opinion of the British. He said there were four sorts in the British Isles. . . .

THE SCOTSMAN who keeps the Sabbath, and everything else he can get hold of.

THE IRISHMAN who does not know what he wants, and will fight like the devil to get it.

THE WELSHMAN who prays on his knees, and anyone else he can.

THE ENGLISHMAN who is a self-made man and worships his creator.

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Information.

The following members of the Training Department have already been given permanent appointments under Education Authorities.

Miss J. Banks, Liverpool.
Miss E. Bushrod, Liverpool.
Mr. D. J. Luke, Liverpool.
Mr. D. Smith, Liverpool.
Miss D. Dade, Ilford.
Miss O. Comben, Ilford.
Mr. P. D. Archard, Southend.
Miss V. Caswall, Eastbourne (Private School).

Professor Ford is at present broadcasting in the Series: "How they do it abroad," and can be heard in the National Programme on Tuesdays, at 7.30 p.m.

Jim Gravett—Editor of *Wessex News*, 1936-37—has been appointed to a School at Ootacamund, S. India. He is at present teaching in London.

Reflections on the Union Ball

Terpischor unto Bacchus spake:
"I pray you bring to heel
A raw, uncouth and callow youth,
Who not will humbly kneel.
He scorns my art and takes no part
in rites which set the Seal
On Culture."

"In vino veritas" 'tis said, so Bacchus dears I pray
That you may lead your Gany-mede, right in his godless way,
For in thy cups unruly pups may back to wisdom stray,
And Culture." M. F. P.

Tennis Tournament

Entry forms will be accepted not later than to-morrow, (Wed.).

In order to assist handicapping, entrants are asked "to be seen" on the courts, otherwise a "safety" handicap will have to be given.

GENTLEMEN!

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A.U. Dance

This year for the first time, the Athletic Union dance was held at Connaught Hall by kind permission of the Warden, to whom we are most grateful. There can be no doubt that the success of the dance was partly due to this gesture.

The attendance was large enough to secure financial success, but at the same time the hall was not too overcrowded to make dancing a difficulty. Perhaps that is why we saw very few people mopping a perspiring brow and shedding blazers and sweaters.

The distribution of Challenge Cups was performed before a record crowd. It was a great pleasure to have Mrs. Dudley present the prizes and her short speech at the conclusion was received with great applause. Mr. Dudley once again informed us that Ireland is a grand place, especially for javelin-throwers.

From then onwards the dance proceeded in serene fashion, though we shudder to think of what would have happened if the Engineers had won the tug-of-war and the Faculty Championship. The modern medley—a palais glide, Lambeth Walk, park parade, etc.—was very popular, and Teddy once more showed us what he could do in the matter of arranging a novelty elimination dance.

In conclusion, may we state that the new Union Blazer must not be mistaken for a K.A.C. one, an error made by a very high official of the Athletic Club.

Continued from page 4, column 3

Women born in June are capable of anything... they can be very good, or the reverse. They are generally very fortunate in all that they undertake.

Favourite Colours: Any colour, but particularly a blend of two or more.

Best Friends: Those born in March, February and September.

Avoid: Those born in May, August, October and December.

Editors' Note: The following were born in June:—Malcolm Roper, R. Harwood and Miss I. Oades.

The BUNGALOW CAFE

You know where it is.

You know what it gives.

● Hear the Band and enjoy yourself

Your Horoscope?

MAY.

Those born in May are generally healthy and strong, capable of hard work, chiefly physical. They will, however, only work when forced to do so by others: left to themselves they are inclined to be idle and to leave things to the last minute. They are a stay-at-home lot—usually fond of an open-air life, and the countryside. They are also of a friendly and sociable disposition except when aroused or irritated. They are easily roused and as easily pacified, and when roused from their lethargy, they are nimble and capable of great effort. They are resolute and dogged, and even obstinate by nature and are prone to oppose and find fault with everything put before them.

People born in May are good eaters and drinkers: this is the only way you can satisfy them, and when not well-fed, they tend to be very restless. They were not meant to eat meat, and if they persist in doing so, it will react on them and cause untold suffering. Being of a greedy disposition they are prone to suffer from diseases of the stomach, though they may also have muscle complaints, chiefly in arms or legs. A warm climate best suits them. Their nature makes them good athletes and boxers; and they are fond of any kind of fighting.

Women born in this month make good wives—being very economical and able to make money go a long way.

Favourite Colours: Green, brown, white or black.

Best Friends: those born in January, February, April and May.

Avoid:... those born in July, August, November and December.

Those born in other months can be easily dominated.

Editors' Note: The following were born in May:—The Principal, The President, Miss Audrey Daniels.

JUNE.

People born in this month are difficult to understand; they have a dual nature and lead double lives, one for the world to see and the other for themselves. They appear a mass of contradictions, even to those who are intimate with them. Their nature wins them many friends and they are never lonely. They are cautious, scheming and calculating and are specially gifted with the power of seeing through people at once. They make good lawyers, traders, merchants and politicians as they can always twist and turn in the direction that will bring them the maximum amount of good. Very pleasant friends, but dangerous enemies. Their contradictory nature makes it difficult to be specific about such people. They have good health as a rule, but sometimes subject to alternate periods of good and bad health. Subject to fits, and inclined to be morose and serious.

Continued on page 4, column 2

American Debate

On Thursday, the Debating Society entertained the American Debaters, Mr. Winger and Mr. Beckenridge to their first debate in England. The motion was "That, in a Democracy, private Control of Radio is to be preferred to State Control." The opposers were Mr. Leslie and Mr. Newman. Speeches from the platform were good, but unfortunately most of the speakers from the floor had already exhausted their oratory earlier in the day on the motion protesting against Conscription in Great Britain.

Both sides were obviously handicapped through ignorance of the actual state of affairs in their opponents' countries, but speakers from the floor did not make the most of their opportunities to clear up many details of fact and emphasis. The division gave the visitors a majority of 20, a result well met by Mr. Winger's brilliant summing-up of the case for private control.

N.B. N.B. N.B.

The week-end, May 12th-15th, will be marked by the visit of Rev. Hugh Evan Hopkins and Dr. Winifred Watson and special meetings are being arranged as follows:

Friday 5 p.m. Squash in the Women's Common Room, led by Dr. Watson.

Friday, 9.30 p.m. Prayers in Connaught Hall, led by Rev. H. E. Hopkins (short address on "Christian Certainty in an Uncertain World").

Sunday Evening. Sermon at St. Mary's, South Stoneham, Rev. H. E. Hopkins.

Monday, 1.20 p.m. Address (by Rev. Hopkins) in the Music Studio. "The Christian Message in a Non-Christian World."

It is hoped that the Student body will turn up in full force to these meetings.

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